#### STATE OF IOWA

# DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

#### UTILITIES BOARD

IN RE:

ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

DOCKET NO. TF-03-385 (TF-03-127)

# ORDER APPROVING COMPLIANCE TARIFF

(Issued September 11, 2003)

On April 21, 2003, Atmos Energy Corporation (Atmos) filed a proposed tariff identified as TF-03-127, to replace the existing level payment plan section of its current tariff with a budget payment plan section. On May 15, 2003, the Board issued an order docketing the proposed tariff for further review because the provisions of the proposed budget payment plan did not comply with the requirements of 199 IAC 19.4(11)"d," "f," and "g." On May 19, 2003, Atmos filed a request for waiver of the provisions of 199 IAC 19.4(11)"d," "f," and "g" to allow the budget payment plan to be implemented and the proposed tariff to be approved.

On July 21, 2003, the Board issued an order rejecting the proposed tariff and granting Atmos an 18-month limited waiver of Board rules 199 IAC 19.4(11)"d," "f," and "g." In the order, the Board directed Atmos to file a revised tariff sheet showing that the budget plan is limited to a maximum of 18 months. The Board granted the limited waiver to allow Atmos an opportunity to implement the budget payment plan while the Board completes its investigation into level payment plans in Docket No. NOI-03-3.

On August 14, 2003, Atmos filed a revised tariff in compliance with the Board's July 21, 2003, order. The compliance tariff was identified as Docket No. TF-03-385. On September 10, 2003, Atmos filed a revision. The revision removes a sentence included in the initial filing that required new budget customers' accounts to be paid in total before entering the budget plan. The tariff now provides that any customer can enter the budget plan, and if a customer is in arrears or has a payment plan, Atmos will add 1/12 of the balance to the budget payment each month for 12 months to remove the amount owed.

The Board finds that the compliance tariff, as revised on September 10, 2003, complies with the July 21, 2003, order and should be approved.

# IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED:

The compliance tariff filed by Atmos Energy Corporation on August 14, 2003, as revised on September 10, 2003, is approved, effective September 12, 2003.

#### **UTILITIES BOARD**

	/s/ Diane Munns
ATTEST:	/s/ Mark O. Lambert
/s/ Judi K. Cooper Executive Secretary	/s/ Elliott Smith

Dated at Des Moines, Iowa, this 11th day of September, 2003.